UCSF
Newsbreak

News for the UCSF Campus Community

VOL. 13, NO. 4 FEBRUARY 13, 1998

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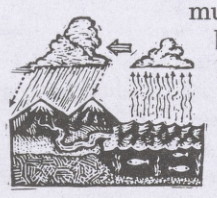
7 UCSF study disputes reports that teetotalers have higher mortality than occasional drinkers

El Niño Strikes a Blow to Campus

The drastic downpours that flooded many parts of California in recent weeks also took their toll on the UCSF campus.

On Tuesday, Feb. 3, at approximately 4 a.m., a mud slide descended upon the Parnassus Campus. The mud slide, which rested against the back of the Medical Research 4 (MR4) building, forced the closure of the building for two days and rendered inaccessible a portion of Kirkham Ave. while contractors cleaned up the mud and stabilized the hill.

Fortunately, no people were in the MR4 building at the time of the mud slide. The MR4 building primarily houses pediatric research, as well as some otolaryngology research, and grant and administrative offices. About 50 people work in the building.



On the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 4, structural engineers determined that the building was stable and safe for occupation. Building occupants were told that they could return to MR4 on Thursday morning.

Because of the storm, several eucalyptus trees fell and, for safety reasons, some trees were taken down. In response to the mud slide, the UCSF Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated and campus police and work crews provided 24-hour surveillance of the area. Despite the continuous rainfall throughout the week, no additional mud slides occurred.

Earlier this week, a geotechnical engineer determined that the hillside was stable and a concrete railing was built to contain the hillside.

— Paula Murphy

Make Daybreak your first web choice

Too busy to sign on to Daybreak — UCSF's electronic daily — each day? By following the steps below you can make it faster and easier to get to the source of UCSF news, features, personalities and sports.

Using Netscape Navigator:

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- Select "General Preferences"
- On "Appearance" menu, find "Browser Starts With" and click radial button next to "Home Page Location"
- Type: http://www.ucsf.edu/daybreak/
- Click "OK"

Using Microsoft Internet Explorer:

- Open web browser
- Go to http://www.ucsf.edu/daybreak/
- Go to pull-down menu "Edit"
- Select "Preferences"
- Find "Home/Search Page"
- Under "Change Address" click "Use Current"
- Click "OK"

Regents name Bishop eighth UCSF chancellor

Nobel laureate J. Michael Bishop, one of the world's foremost medical researchers and a leading advocate for science education and increased public investment in scientific research, last week was named chancellor of UCSF.

Acting on the recommendation of UC President Richard C. Atkinson, the UC Board of Regents appointed Bishop, a longtime member of the UCSF faculty, during a meeting conducted by teleconference. The appointment is effective July 1. Bishop, 61, will become UCSF's eighth chancellor.

"He brings to the position international renown and a sterling record of accomplishment in research," said Atkinson. "He also is an inspirational and award-winning teacher, an eloquent spokesman for the University, and a highly effective fundraiser. Dr. Bishop's unique strengths and insight assure that UCSF will continue to excel as one of the world's premier health sciences centers."

"The appointment of Michael Bishop is a brilliant decision demonstrating that the President and Regents truly comprehend the essence of UCSF and the qualities that have contributed to its uniqueness and greatness," said Dorothy Bainton, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. "The acceptance of the appointment by Mike is an act of unselfishness. He will now lead, as he always has, by example."

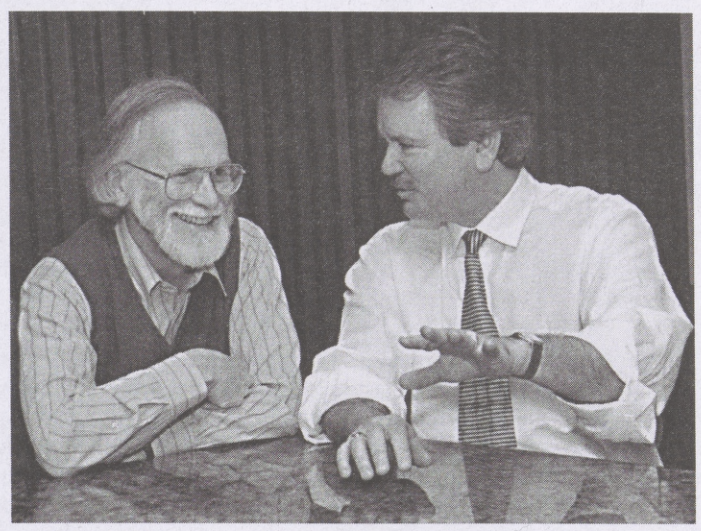
"I've been here for 30 years this month," Bishop said. "It's a place for which I have great respect and affection."

Bishop was nonplussed by his status as the first non-practicing physician to assume the role of chancellor in nearly 30 years. "I am trained as a physician so I retain the sensitivities of a physician and I retain a great respect [for the profession]," he said.

"It is wonderful that a scientist of Bishop's distinction will now be representing the entire campus, particularly with the growth in resources anticipated at NIH in the next five years," said Jane Norbeck, dean of the School of Nursing.

Although he said it was "too early to speculate" on campus initiatives he would like to undertake, Bishop said that the academic mission of the campus is of prime importance to him. He also said that he will need to study up on the UCSF Stanford merger. "My main concern will be that it doesn't have an adverse impact," he said. "We're hoping it will have a positive impact."

In order to learn the ropes, Bishop said he will be shadowing current chancellor Haile T. Debas, dean of the UCSF School of Medicine, until he officially takes office on July 1. Debas accepted the chancellorship in July 1997 after former Chancellor Joseph B. Martin left to become dean of the faculty of medicine at Harvard University. Debas planned to serve as chancellor no longer than a year.

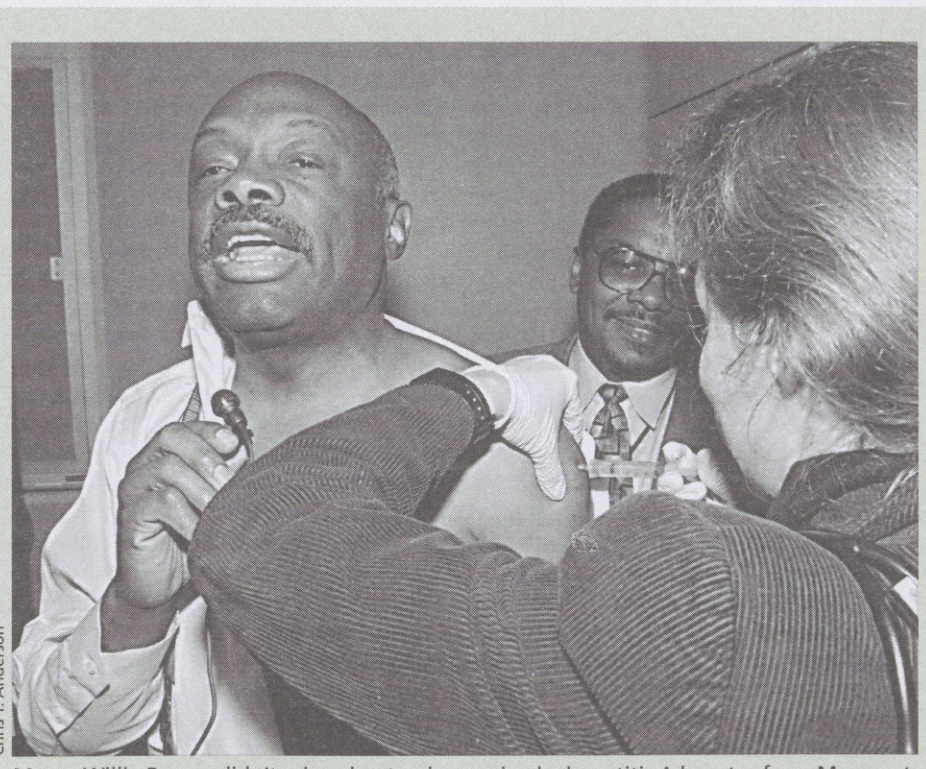


J. Michael Bishop talks with Steve Barclay after the announcement of Bishop's appointment.

"The Regents could not have chosen a more energetic, brilliant, dynamic person to lead UCSF into the next century," Debas said. "Bishop enjoys the complete confidence of the faculty, he is a perfect leader at a time when UCSF will have a major expansion of its biomedical research program, and he will be a champion of academic health institutions nationally."

Bishop spoke enthusiastically about the new Mission Bay campus but also

(See **Chancellor** on page 3)



Chris T. Anderson

Mayor Willie Brown didn't miss a beat as he received a hepatitis A booster from Margaret Wheeler — a feat that had the crowd in hysterics at last week's Grand Rounds at SFGH.

High hopes pinned on community hospital

By SARAH ELLIOTT

The normally restrained Medical Grand Rounds, SFGH's weekly lecture series, became an interactive event last week as Mayor Willie Brown and Chancellor Haile Debas stepped up to the podium to speak about the hospital's relationship with UCSF and the community.

As Mayor Brown recounted his administration's past and future commitment to health care issues, his spirited promises met with enthusiastic applause from the audience at Carr Auditorium. Most meaningful perhaps to the hospital was his pledge to find funding for SFGH's coveted ambulatory care facility planned for what is being called A-lot (on the site now fronting the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology). Claiming that his "finance person thinks it can be done and fairly soon," Brown brushed off concerns that he would need to divert resources from existing facilities to get the funds.

(See **SFGH** on page 8)

Chancellor's Advancement of Women Awards

Four members of the UCSF campus community have been selected to receive the 1998 Chancellor's Award for the Advancement of Women. This award recognizes contributions to the advancement of women and/or work to increase knowledge of women's health.

Mary Croughan-Minihane, associate professor in residence in the departments of family and Community Medicine and Epidemiology and Biostatistics, the winner in the faculty category, has devoted herself to women's issues in her nine years on campus. She currently chairs the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women (CACSW). In addition, her research has focused primarily on women's health issues, especially in the area of reproductive epidemiology.

The award for a staff member will be shared by Barbara Garcia, interventionist in the California Partners Study, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, and Heather Wilkie, public administration analyst in the department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. As an HIV-positive woman, Garcia has been active in the HIV community, working primarily with women. As a board member of the HIV Services Planning Council for more than 4 years, she has been instrumental in the allocation of HIV health and human services for women and children.

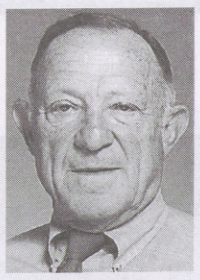
Wilkie is committed to improving women's health through innovative research. At present she coordinates a population-based mammography registry, and is an analyst for the Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) Breast

(See **Women** on page 8)

Sleisenger receives top VA education award

by JAMES LARKIN

Marvin H. Sleisenger, a physician at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center and Professor Emeritus at UCSF, has been presented with the David M. Worthern Award for academic excellence by the Department of Veterans Affairs.


Sleisenger

The award was presented by Department of Veterans Affairs Under Secretary for Health, Kenneth Kizer, MD. "Dr. Sleisenger's numerous scholarly contributions to internal medicine and gastroenterology have been exemplary in advancing the academic mission of the VA," said Kizer during his presentation. "During the two decades he was chief of the medical service at San Francisco VAMC, he led the service to new heights by his recruitment of nationally recognized physician educators and researchers and by the development of many first-class programs," he said.

Sleisenger, a former VA Distinguished Physician, was chief of the SFVAMC medical service and vice chairman of the UCSF Department of Medicine from 1967 to 1988. During this period, he built the full-time medical faculty from only four physicians to the current level of more than 50. Using UCSF as his model, Sleisenger established new divisions within the department of medicine and hand-picked the clinicians and investigators who would lead them. With his guidance, those divisions launched programs that continue to give top-flight patient care while providing hands-on medical training to one-third of all UCSF 3rd and 4th year medical students and one-third of UCSF's medical residents.

"During his tenure as chief of medicine, Dr. Sleisenger's inspired staff recruitments helped establish the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center as a leader in research within the VA system, as judged by the number of investigatorships and VA research funds awarded to the faculty," said C. Diana Nicoll, SFVAMC chief of staff and associate dean of the UCSF school of medicine.

Well known for his editorial contributions to gastroenterology, Sleisenger has co-edited all six editions of Gastrointestinal Disease, in print since 1973 and considered the field's standard text. He has also authored numerous scientific papers and contributed chapters to several noted textbooks.

Sleisenger's many awards and distinctions include an honorary doctorate from the University of Nice in France and honorary membership in the Royal College of Physicians. The Marin resident was elected a Master in the American College of Physicians and is a past recipient of the American Gastrointestinal Association's highest award, the Friedenwald Medal.

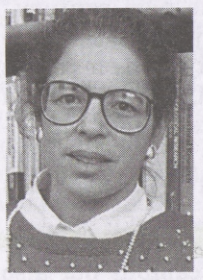
The David M. Worthen Award, given in honor of the Veterans Health Administration's late assistant chief medical director for academic affairs, recognizes a VHA employee who has made a contribution of great significance to the education of health care professionals.

Karen Preuss

Pediatric patients return to remodeled unit

Sherry Lou Agustin, age 10, used a bike from Pediatric Rehab to transport herself from 11-Moffitt to her room in the newly renovated unit on 7-Long. Following alongside with her bed — piled with her belongings — were patient care assistants Arnold Tangaan (front) and John Salgado.

Appointments


Adler

Nancy E. Adler, professor of psychology: Appointed as Fellow in the American Psychological Society in recognition of her sustained outstanding contributions to the science of psychology.

APS membership, which includes many of the most prominent psychologists in the discipline, has grown to almost 16,000, but only a select number have been awarded Fellow status.

Anne Broome: Appointed Vice President for Financial Management. The first woman to serve as a University vice president, Broome joined the Office of the President in 1994 as Associate Vice President for Business and Finance after a series of senior appointments in financial management at Price Waterhouse, Lucky Stores Inc. and Mervyn's California. She has contributed significantly to the development of programs to improve financial controls and accountability at the nine UC campuses, five hospitals and the Office of the President.

Broome will continue to direct all aspects of University corporate financial management and control. She is responsible for the development, implementation and monitoring of compliance with policy procedures for the University's financial systems, which has been an area of major emphasis and improved performance under her leadership.

Broome, who is a certified public accountant and earned her MBA at New York University, will continue to report to Senior Vice President V. Wayne Kennedy.

Larry Hershman: Appointed Vice President for Budget. Hershman, who has been Associate Vice President and Director of the Budget since 1989, has served the University through the fiscal difficulties of the 1970s and early 1980s as well as the succeeding, more prosperous years. He directed efforts to weather the unprecedented recession of the early 1990s and developed plans for establishing financial stability in the aftermath.

Hershman joined the Office of the President in 1974 as Director of Health Sciences Budget and Planning after having been Budget Officer and Assistant Vice Chancellor at UC San Francisco since 1968. Previously, he was a senior auditor at Ernst and Ernst and a financial planner at Hughes Aircraft Corp. He holds an MBA from UC Berkeley.

As Vice President, Hershman will continue to report to the president and retain his responsibility for development and implementation of the University's operating and capital resource acquisition and allocation plans. He is also responsible for development of the annual Regents' budget and external negotiation of the state operating and capital budgets.

Newstat

Joyce Newstat, a veteran of local political campaigns and community programs: Appointed community and governmental relations representative for UCSF.

Newstat comes to UCSF from Solem and Associates, where she served as an account supervisor and specialist in governmental relations. Previously, she had worked as campaign manager or staff member for numerous local and national political campaigns and as a legislative aide for several former San Francisco supervisors.

Newstat received a bachelor of social work degree in 1980 from the State University of New York at Albany and a law degree in 1987 from Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco.

Newstat joins UCSF at a time of great expansion and change at the University, which is beginning the implementation of a new long-range plan calling for the creation of a major new campus site at Mission Bay, a major re-investment in the original campus at Parnassus Heights, and important new opportunities at other campus sites including Laurel Heights, UCSF/Mount Zion and SFGH.

"UCSF's Community and Governmental Relations office plays a vital role in the University's commitment to develop plans that meet the needs of the campus and serve the interests of the community. We are pleased to include Joyce Newstat's experience and energy in UCSF's effort to include campus neighbors, community leaders, and government representatives in our planning process," said Steve Neuberger, director of UCSF Community and Governmental Relations.

Ron D. Vale, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, biophysics and biochemistry: Appointed as the first William K. Hamilton Distinguished Professor in Anesthesia. Vale was chosen for his international reputation as an outstanding investigator who is committed to mentoring young physician-scientists in the department of anesthesia. Vale's responsibility in this professorship will be to consult with the young basic and translational research faculty in anesthesia, advising them in matters of scientific strategies and grantsmanship, and facilitating contacts with other basic scientists.

Vale's research has been supported by both the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and he has published more than 90 publications in respected scientific journals, including Nature and Cell.

Anthony Wagner: Appointed interim executive administrator of the Community Health Network, a public health care delivery system that integrates the resources of the SF Department of Public Health and its community health centers, SFGH and UCSF. Effective March 1. Wagner has served for the past 10 years as executive administrator of Laguna Honda Hospital and for the past year has held the post of deputy administrator of the CHN. He succeeds Richard Cordova, who has been named senior vice president with Kaiser Permanente's East Bay division.

Teresa Lyn Wright, associate professor in residence for the department of medicine at UCSF, and chief, gastroenterology section at the VA Medical Center: Appointed chair of the American Liver Foundation's Medical Advisory Committee for the Northern California Chapter. Wright replaces John R. Lake, associate professor of medicine and medical director, liver transplantation program at UCSF.

The Medical Advisory Committee directly influences the public and professional educational programs implemented in Northern California. The committee forwards recommendations to the national organization in relationship the development of the American Liver Foundation's national research agenda. Individual members of the committee are also called upon to speak at "Meet the Researchers" conferences. These conferences are held to keep those who are affected with liver disease up-to-date on the latest clinical trial results.

Honors and Awards

David Rempel, associate professor of medicine (in residence) at the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at SFGH: Awarded an NIH/Fogarty Senior International Fellowship to conduct research with the Departments of Hand Surgery and Cell Biology at Lund University Medical Center in Sweden for the current school year. The research will investigate the responses of tendon, synovium and nerve tissue to hypoxia and loading.

Academic Geriatric Resource Center announces new coordinating committee:

School of Dentistry — Mark Kirkland
School of Medicine — Seth Landerfeld
School of Nursing — Meg Wallhagen
School of Pharmacy — Ron Finley
Social & Behavioral Sciences — Linda Mitteness
Two At-Large Members from the Community — Lawrence Feigenbaum, Goldman Institute on Aging; Susan Kornblatt, On Lok Senior Health Services

Private Support

UCSF is pleased to acknowledge the following gifts/pledges of $25,000 or more from individuals, corporations and foundations received January 18-31, 1998.

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UCSF and Stanford inaugurate joint practice center

By ABBY SINNOTT and TIM STEPHENS

UCSF and Stanford University will join together on March 5 to celebrate the inauguration of a joint research center, the UCSF-Stanford Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC).

The event will take place at Stanford University's Munzer Auditorium in the Beckman Center from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. with a reception following from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Kenneth Shine, president of the Institute of Medicine, will deliver the keynote address. His talk, titled "The Science and the Art of Medicine," will explore the evolving world of evidence-based medicine.

The Institute of Medicine, part of the National Academy of Sciences, is the organization chartered by Congress to advise the federal government on issues related to the science of medicine and health of the population.

The UCSF-Stanford EPC is part of a large evidence-based practice initiative sponsored by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Last year, the Agency awarded five-year contracts to 12 institutions in the United States and Canada to serve as Evidence-based Practice Centers, including UCSF and Stanford as a collaborative venture.

The EPCs are charged with gathering and reviewing all relevant scientific literature on assigned medical topics. The findings are presented in evidence reports and serve as the scientific foundation for health care providers when developing clinical guidelines.

"Our Center is focused on grading and synthesizing scientific evidence to help health care providers develop strategies to improve patient care," said George Sawaya, research coordinator of the UCSF-Stanford Center.

A total of 40 UCSF and Stanford faculty members from a variety of clinical departments are affiliated with the Center. Participants are from the UCSF departments of internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, and family and community medicine; and Stanford University's internal medicine, health policy research and psychiatry departments.

In addition, the Center includes investigators from the UCSF Institute for Health Policy Studies and its associated Cochrane Collaboration; the Medical Effectiveness Research Center for Diverse Populations; and the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health. At Stanford University, Center investigators include the NRSA Institutional Program in Health Services Research; the Patient Outcomes Research Team; and the National Library of Medicine Training Program in Medical Informatics.

The UCSF-Stanford EPC's researchers also interact with UCSF-Stanford Health Care, the new clinical enterprise created by the merger of patient-care services at UCSF and Stanford.

Though the faculty are experts in a variety of clinical specialties, the Center has particular interest in women's health and cardiology. The Center's first project, based at Stanford, examines different medical therapies for cardiovascular disease.

"When evaluating medical treatments and developing guidelines, there is a significant trend in moving away from theory-based medicine and towards evidence-based medicine," said Sawaya, a UCSF assistant professor of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences.

"It is important for us to be intellectually honest about what we know, especially with preventive medicine, because we are trying to enhance the health of people who are already healthy," Sawaya said.

The UCSF Stanford EPC is forming partnerships with other Bay Area medical and research organizations to incorporate the broadest range of health care experts' perspectives into their evidence reports. Partners include the Kaiser Permanente Division of Research in Oakland, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers in San Francisco, Palo Alto and Menlo Park.

Center co-directors are A. Eugene Washington, professor and chair, UCSF department of obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive sciences, and Mark Hlatky, chair of Stanford's Health Research and Policy Department.

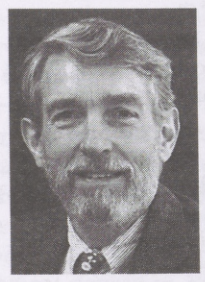
First Groups Get Mission Bay Nod

By JEFF MILLER

After formal application to and consideration by the Mission Bay Academic Implementation Committee, four scientific research areas — numbering about 75 individuals in all — have been selected to occupy the first phase of UCSF's new Mission Bay campus, according to Zach Hall, associate dean for research in the School of Medicine.

These research groups are: structural and chemical biology; cellular, molecular and developmental biology; genetics; and developmental neuroscience. Groundbreaking for the new site is not now expected before the summer of 1999, Hall explained, meaning that occupancy is not likely before the year 2000. The decision to select these groups reflects an estimate of their scientific and programmatic value, the maturity of their proposals and the degree of innovation and excellence they could create as Mission Bay's scientific vanguard.

"What goes first to Mission Bay had to represent UCSF at its best and to generate excitement about new opportunities as well," said Hall. At the same time, however, the decision-making process crystallized thinking about scientific opportunities on Parnassus. "It seems clear, as in the case of immunology which requested not to move to Mission Bay, that Parnassus can flourish as a center for disease-based research."



Hall

Indeed, Hall envisions both a clustering of some disciplines to optimize interactions and a mixing of others, such as basic and clinical science, to stimulate intellectual exchange. Teaching will happen on each campus. In recognition of that fact, construction of a campus community center as well as research buildings now has high priority in Mission Bay's first phase.

"It's important that everyone recognize that UCSF is a multi-site university. Although each campus will have its own personality, there will be overlap, so that no topic or approach will be exclusive to any campus. All will be closely linked, not only programmatically, but also by what we hope will be a safe, frequent and expanded transportation system."

Founders Day

Arthur Weiss, Ephraim P. Engleman Distinguished Professor of Rheumatology, Department of Medicine; professor of microbiology and immunology; and investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, UCSF, is the faculty research lecturer for Founders Day. His talk, titled Zapping the T-Cell Antigen Receptor, will be presented Tuesday, March 10 at 1 p.m. in Cole Hall.

The Founders Day banquet will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, beginning with a reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m. This year's medal winners honored at the banquet are:

- Doris and Don Fisher, co-founders of The Gap Inc. who were chosen for their tireless commitment to the health and well-being of the community. Doris has worked to further cancer research and treatments, while Don's efforts in securing the new campus at Mission Bay have been crucial to its success.
- William B. Kerr, Executive Vice President and COO, UCSF Stanford Health Care, is honored for his 27 years of service to UCSF and for his leadership in the recent merger of UCSF's clinical facilities with those of Stanford University.
- Joanne A. Lewis, Campus Community Leader, is recognized for her contributions to the UCSF community and the State of California as a tireless advocate for the advancement of minorities and women.
- Joseph B. Martin, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, was selected for his guidance that assured UCSF a place in the 21st century. The creation of UCSF Stanford Health Care and Mission Bay are examples of his vision.
- Stanley B. Prusiner, professor of biochemistry and neurology, UCSF, is honored for his outstanding research in neurodegenerative disorders and discovery of the prion that revolutionized scientific thought and earned him a Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine.

The Founders Day luncheon will be held on March 9 at Millberry Union, honoring outstanding UCSF faculty members. For information and to purchase tickets to events, call 476-4454.

Chancellor (from page 1)

talked about the difficulties it presents. "The biggest challenge is not Mission Bay, per se, but the fact that we're dividing our forces," Bishop said. "UCSF is world-renowned for its research staff. To divide our forces is a threat."

Bishop expressed a couple of "philosophical" ideas for UCSF but emphasized that they were not "planning realities." He said that he would like to see medical students "be embedded in research" in their first couple of years of school. He also said that he would like to see the Parnassus campus become one of the world's leaders in research into human diseases.

Bishop said he had to convince himself to accept the position, even after "folks began to tell me I could do this job and I should do it." He said the support he has received from faculty and the votes of confidence expressed by President Atkinson and Debas, "made me feel I could do it."

He did say that he would regret not being a full-time scientist anymore. However, Bishop said he will maintain a laboratory, which he was encouraged to do by the Regents and his colleagues. "It will be a source of inspiration and solace," he said. "I'm giving up a major part of my life. I hope to deal with it in part by using the position of chancellor to talk to the public about science."

Bishop shared the Nobel Prize in 1989 with UCSF Professor Harold E. Varmus, who has been director of the National Institutes of Health since 1994. They won the award in physiology or medicine for discovering that normal cells contain genes that can cause cancer if they malfunction. Their discovery is widely credited with sparking a revolution in cancer research.

"The appointment of Michael Bishop is a brilliant decision...the President and Regents truly comprehend the essence of UCSF and the qualities that have contributed to its uniqueness and greatness."

—DOROTHY BAINTON, VICE CHANCELLOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS.

Bishop will continue his work on the National Cancer Advisory Board, to which President Clinton recently appointed him. "It's a way for me to continue to fulfill my passion for cancer research," he said. "I think it's a good way for me to represent the University in the Beltway."

As far as diversity, Bishop said "the name of the game is recruitment," and that he would not try to undo what the public and Regents have already decided. However, he said he wants to continue UCSF's trend of graduating a diverse student body. "We have an admirable record and one that I would bend heaven and earth to sustain," he said.

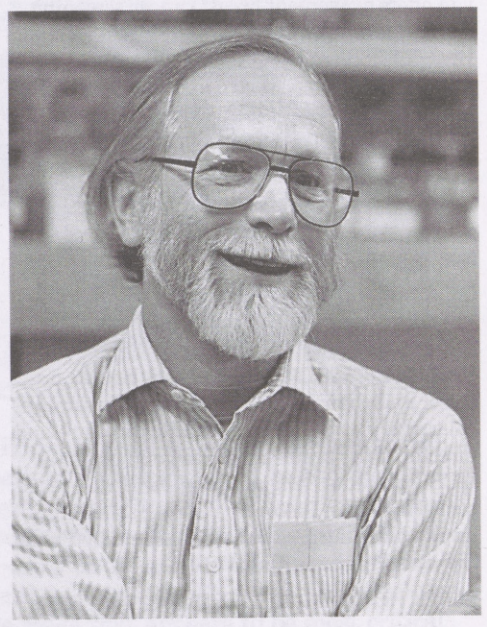
At UCSF, Bishop is a distinguished and popular teacher and adviser. He has twice received the campus' Kaiser Award for Excellence in Teaching and in 1994 was appointed a university professor, the highest honor UC can bestow on a professor in recognition of superior scholarship and teaching.

Though fearing the loss of their mentor, the students gathered in the lab following the announcement expressed their approval. "This has to be the ideal choice for UCSF," said Andreas Trumpp, a postdoctoral fellow in Bishop's lab in the Hooper Foundation for four years. "He's a Nobel Prize winner, a fantastic scientist ... an extremely nice person."

Trumpp said people in the lab are always impressed by the breadth of Bishop's knowledge, and not only of science — he's a lover of music, a baseball fan, he's well read and "the way he writes is incredible," said Trumpp.

Trumpp credits Bishop for allowing his scientists freedom to pursue their cancer-related lab research. "He encourages us to pursue our ideas, and he gives us a lot of support."

Bishop held a meeting with the students and scientists in his lab Friday, and assured them that their important work will continue and he would maintain his appointment in the Hooper Foundation.



Bishop

As chancellor, Bishop has a few perks to look forward to. He'll have a second parking space — one to supplement the spot granted to him after he won the Nobel Prize in 1989. He'll also have a new home. Bishop, who now lives in Marin, said he and his wife will move into the Chancellor's house on campus.

But a question foremost on many minds is: will Bishop trade in his sweater for a jacket and tie? "I wear a tie when it's appropriate," he said. "I actually have some quite nice ties."

—Reported by Paula Murphy, Jennifer O'Brien and Andy Evangelista

Feb. 14-27, 1998

14 Saturday

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

SLEEP PROBLEMS WORKSHOP: The UCSF/Mount Zion Center on Aging presents *Counting Sheep: Conquering Sleep Problems*, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., UCSF Laurel Heights conference center auditorium, 3333 California St. Clinical experts give attendees information to help them be proactive about their own health and well-being. Workshops are free, but pre-registration is required. Call 750-5342.

16 Monday

PRESIDENT'S DAY

UCSF HOLIDAY

17 Tuesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Anne Thorson, medical director for the heart disease reversal program of UCSF/CPMC, presents *Coronary Artery Disease? High Cholesterol?*, noon to 1 p.m., at the UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center at 1600 Divisadero St., Herbst Hall. Learn your options. Free. Sponsored by Public Services Programs. Call 476-4394.

MEDITATION CLASSES: Conducted by Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center and sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences, noon-1 p.m., S 158. Free. Call 563-4459.

BLACK HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL: See p. 8.

NEW BABY CLASS: UCSF Stanford Health Care is sponsoring a class entitled *Surviving the First Two Weeks with a New Baby*, 6:30-9 p.m., ACC, 400 Parnassus Ave. Discuss newborn bathing, hygiene, diapers, diapering, crying, comforting, sleep and recognizing illness. Cost is $20 for one parent; $25 for two. Call 476-2078.

18 Wednesday

MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY VAN: The UCSF van offers convenient breast cancer screening, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., UCSF/Daly City, 3333 Gellert Blvd. The exam costs $75 and takes about 20 minutes. Written or verbal approval from a doctor is required. Call 476-2193 for an appointment and for other dates and locations.

NOON LECTURE: April Martin Chartrand, national award-winning fiberalchemist, presents *Choices,* noon-1 p.m., N 217. Chartrand will articulate artistic healing modalities and their role in diagnosis, treatment and healing. Sponsored by the UCSF Black Caucus. Call 476-4410.

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Mitchel S. Berger, professor and chair of the department of neurological surgery at UCSF Stanford Health Care and director of the brain tumor research center at UCSF, presents *Language and the Brain,* 12:10 p.m., HSW 300. Discover lessons learned from awake brain surgery. Free. Sponsored by Public Services Programs. Call 476-4394.

BLACK HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL: See p. 5.

19 Thursday

BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
UCSF - LAUREL HEIGHTS

INFECTIOUS DISEASES CONFERENCE: The Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics presents the *5th annual Epidemiology and Prevention of Infectious Diseases: Emerging Infectious Diseases,* 2/19 to 2/21, Grand Hyatt Hotel on Union Square, San Francisco. This program gives an overview of the scope and methods employed in infectious disease epidemiology and research, the unique aspects of hospital epidemiology and infection control, the problem of antimicrobial drug resistance, and the epidemiology and prevention of significant infectious diseases. Designed for all practitioners in the disciplines of epidemiology, public health, health administration, medicine, nursing, and related professions. Sponsored by UCSF's Office of Continuing Medical Education. Tuition is $70/physicians and researchers; $355/nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants; and $195/interns, residents and fellows. To register, call 476-5808.

ABOG PRESENTATION: Guest speaker Peter Magowan, the owner of the San Francisco Giants, presents *Spring Training for the Management Team,* 10-11 a.m., Toland Hall. Magowan is recognized as one of Major League Baseball's most progressive leaders and is credited with playing a critical role in keeping the Giants in San Francisco and gaining approval for a new ballpark. This event is open to the entire campus community. Sponsored by the Academic Business Officers Group (ABOG).

ENRICHMENT WORKSHOP: Evelyn Lee, associate clinical professor, psychiatry, presents *Multicultural / Diversity: The Many Faces of Death,* Part I, noon, N 217. Glimpse one area of life where cultural knowledge and sensitivity can make a difference in communication with patients. With exposure to various cultural traditions and the reasons behind them, health professionals can be respectful at this time in a patient's life. Lee will present the beliefs, values, rituals and practices of Chinese cultures regarding death and dying. Free. Sponsored by Student Enrichment and Activities. Call 502-2442. See 2/24 listing for Part II.

COLE HALL CINEMA: Millberry Programs & Services presents *In & Out*, 5:45 & 7:45 p.m., Cole Hall. Rated PG-13. Tickets can be purchased at the door only. Box office opens 1/2 hour before showtime. One discounted ticket per ID only. Cost $2 child (14 & under); $2.50 UCSF students/MU members; $3 UCSF staff/other students; and $3.50 general public. Call 476-6932.

BLACK HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL: See p. 5.

20 Friday

BLACK NURSES SYMPOSIUM: Catherine Waters presents *The UCSF Black Nursing Association's Annual Black Nurses' Symposium,* 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Cole Hall. Sponsored by the UCSF Black Caucus. Contact Joann Ray at 476-4897.

WELLNESS LECTURE: Debra Bell presents *Integrating Natural Therapies with Conventional Medicine,* noon, HSW 300. Discover the healing capacities of herbs, homeopathy, diet, lifestyle and spirituality. Sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts & Sciences. Free. Call 584-4416.

BLACK HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL: See p. 5.

COLE HALL CINEMA: See 2/19 listing. Showtimes are 6:30 & 8:30 p.m.

21 Saturday

SELF-DEFENSE FOR KIDS: Nina Haft, a certified self-defense teacher, rape crisis counselor and holder of a black belt in Kung Fu, presents *Safe, Strong and Streetwise: Self-Defense and Assertiveness for Girls and Boys,* 1:30-5:30 p.m., MU Fitness Center, Studio 2, 500 Parnassus Ave. This four-hour class for ages 8-12 introduces a broad range of self-defense strategies, including awareness, assertiveness, and basic physical fighting skills. Students will learn basic blocking, releases, strikes and ground-fighting techniques. Participants will practice assertiveness and verbal self-defense in situations of their choosing. Cost $25/UCSF affiliates; $40 general public. Pre-registration required. Call 476-5222.

23 Monday

OUTCOMES RESEARCH SEMINAR: Patricia Katz and Harold Luft, Institute of Health Policy Studies presents *Health Care Quality and Outcomes: Research and Application,* 1:45-3:30 p.m., 1388 Sutter St., 11th Floor, Seminar Room. Speakers will be addressing methodological issues. To RSVP call 476-4924.

BETTER VISION NOW: John Stanley, professor of ophthalmology, presents *Better Vision Now,* 6 p.m., Beckman Vision Center, 8 Kirkham Ave. Learn new surgery options to correct nearsightedness and astigmatism, from laser surgery to corneal implants. Free. Call 476-5021.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women leaders symposium

UCSF and UC Berkeley present A Symposium for Women in University Settings, March 12, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., featuring keynote speakers Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders, former US Surgeon General, along with Shirley S. Chater, former US Commissioner of the Social Security Administration and Dr. Judith B. Rosener, professor, UC Irvine's School of Business Management, at Clark Kerr Campus, UC Berkeley. This symposium was developed to give women, especially those at UCSF and UCB campuses, an opportunity to come together to discuss and critically look at where women are today in gaining access to positions of leadership in higher education. The conference will explore how much work still needs to be done. "It is not enough to hire and promote women because many women leaders are still excluded from management discussions," said Kathleen Brown, symposium coordinator. "Women's voices need to be heard in the decision-making processes that shape the future of universities." Sponsored by UCSF Chancellor Haile Debas and the UCSF Women's Resource Center. To register, call 476-5836.

Elders

Public Health Policy Symposium

The Institute for Health & Aging, School of Nursing, is hosting a day-long education symposium on public health as affected by professor Dorothy Rice's life-time work, March 24 at Laurel Heights, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. with a reception to follow. Lunch provided. RSVP by March 10 at 502-5200. Speakers include Robert Butler from Mount Sinai Hospital, New York; Barbara Cooper from the Health Care Financing Administration; Daniel Fox, Milbank Fund; and Ruth Roemer, UCLA. Rice is one of the leading researchers in the field of cost of illness and injury.

Guest Speaker

K. Craig Kent, professor of surgery and chief, division of vascular surgery at The New York Hospital–Cornell Medical Center, will speak on "Treatment of cartoid stenosis–Is the vascular surgeon still necessary?" in Toland Hall, March 25 from 7-8 a.m. Kent will also lecture via teleconference on "Targeting Intracellular signaling pathways—A method for controlling intimal hyperplasia" in S-161 from 5-6 p.m.

"Kent is highly regarded as a surgeon as well as basic science investigator," said Louis Messina, chief of the division of vascular surgery at UCSF. Kent received his MD degree from UCSF, where he also completed his surgical internship and residency.

24 Tuesday

ENRICHMENT WORKSHOP: Pablo Stewart, associate clinical professor, psychiatry, presents *Multicultural / Diversity: The Many Faces of Death, Part II,* noon, HSW 303. Many of the rituals, beliefs and traditions within the Hispanic culture are examined and students will be able to compare the diverse aspects of death and dying for their patients. Stewart brings experience and commitment, along with sensitivity to this presentation. Free. Sponsored by Student and Enrichment Activities. Call 502-2442.

BOYER FUND SEMINAR: Douglas Melton, Department of Molecular & Cellular Biology, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Harvard University, presents *Development of the Endoderm and Pancreas,* 4 p.m., HSW 301. Sponsored by the Herbert W. Boyer Fund. Call Didier Stainier at 502-6779.

NEW BABY CLASS: See 2/17 listing.

UCSF ORCHESTRA: The musical *West Side Story* will be played by the UCSF Orchestra at 7:30 p.m., in the Millberry Gymnasium. This benefit concert will raise funds for the UCSF Child Care Study Center. Tickets will be sold at the door. Cost is $3 for students, $5 for UCSF staff and faculty and $7 for the general public. For more information, call 476-6932.

25 Wednesday

MO MONEY LECTURE: Edwin K. Stephens, financial adviser, The Stephens Group, presents a financial planning seminar, *Managing Yo Money to Get Mo Money, Mo Money, Mo Money!*, noon-1 p.m., S 157. Free. Sponsored by the UCSF Black Caucus. Call 476-4410.

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Dean Ornish, president and director of the preventive medicine research institute and associate clinical professor of medicine, and Anne Thorson, medical director of the heart disease reversal program at UCSF/CPMC and associate professor of medicine, present *The Power of Lifestyle Changes: The Heart Disease Reversal Program,* 12:10 p.m., HSW 300. Free. Call 476-4394.

18TH CHAUNCEY D. LEAKE LECTURE: Jared M. Diamond, UCLA professor of physiology, addresses the question, "Why did human history unfold differently on different continents for the last 13,000 years?" at Cole Hall, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Leake founded UCSF's pharmacology and history of medicine departments. Sponsored by the Department of Anesthesia and the Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology.

BLACK HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL: See p. 5.

26 Thursday

VENDOR FAIR: Shop the Black Heritage Vendor Fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Millberry Union. $40 vendor fee. Co-sponsored by the UCSF Black Student Health Alliance. Call Bilal Shabazz for more information, at 476-4410.

ENRICHMENT WORKSHOP: Susan Bernhard, president, Association of Women in Science and mentor partners, UCSF, presents *Mentoring: Doing It and Getting It, What Your Uncle Never Told You,* noon, N 217. The nature of and need for mentoring will be examined through the stories of successful participants. This program examines key elements of the relationship for both partners. There will be time for questions and answers. Free. Co-sponsored by Women in Life Science (WILS) and Student Enrichment and Activities. Call 502-2442.

COLE HALL CINEMA: Millberry Programs & Services presents *Boogie Nights*, 5:45 & 7:45 p.m., Cole Hall. Rated R. Tickets can be purchased at the door only. Box office opens 1/2 hour before showtime. One discounted ticket per ID only. Cost $2 child (14 & under); $2.50 UCSF students/MU members; $3 UCSF staff/other students; and $3.50 general public. Call 476-6932.

27 Friday

SURGERY RESIDENT RESEARCH DAY: David Dunn, chairman of surgery, University of Minnesota, presents *Characterization of the Host Septic Response: Mythologies and Reality,* 8 a.m.-4 p.m., N 217. Dunn will be the 11th Annual J. Englebert Dunphy Visiting Professor for the UCSF Department of Surgery Resident Research Day. Call Eleanor Levaeu at 476-0972.

ON-SITE TRAINING AND VENDOR FAIR: Brown & Toland presents a day of on-site training programs including *Learning to Capture your Practice's Financial Picture,* at the Miyako Hotel, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. A vendor fair offers the opportunity to meet suppliers of medical supplies, transcription services, pharmaceuticals and more. Breakfast and lunch served. $50; call Maria Caldecott at 749-5413.

COLE HALL CINEMA: See 2/26 listing. Showtimes are 6:30 & 8:30 p.m.

New drug shows promise as hormone therapy

By ABBY SINNOTT

A novel hormone therapy drug studied at UCSF exhibits different effects on postmenopausal and premenopausal women, according to researchers.

In the first study of the new drug raloxifene on healthy, menstruating women, the UCSF team evaluated its reproductive effects on premenopausal women. To date, human studies of raloxifene have been conducted only on postmenopausal women.

Valerie Baker, lead author of the UCSF study and Robert Jaffe, senior author, report their findings in the January 1998 issue of the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism.

Raloxifene was developed by Eli Lilly and Company and was approved by the Food and Drug Administration for postmenopausal women in December 1997.

Previous UCSF studies of raloxifene on postmenopausal women led to its recent approval. The drug is an alternative to estrogen replacement therapy and is intended for women who, because of medical reasons or personal preference, choose not to take estrogen after menopause.

"In the current study, we wanted to determine how a woman's uterus, pituitary glands and ovaries respond to raloxifene before she starts menopause," said Jaffe, who is the director of the UCSF Reproductive Endocrinology Center and UCSF Fred Gellert professor of Reproductive Medicine and biology.

During the UCSF study, a total of 31 reproductive-age women received raloxifene during different phases of their menstrual cycles. According to Baker and Jaffe, raloxifene neither affected ovulation nor altered the length of the menstrual cycle. However, the women's estrogen levels increased.

"It is important to know that the effects of raloxifene differ depending on a woman's present ovarian function," said Baker, who is now a faculty member at the University of Washington. "One should not generalize about the use of raloxifene between postmenopausal and premenopausal women."

In previous UCSF studies of raloxifene in postmenopausal women, researchers found that it is perhaps one of the safest and most effective hormone therapy drugs because of its unique characteristics, said Baker.

Raloxifene, which belongs to a class of drugs called selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMs), both simulates and blocks the actions of estrogen depending on the organ system, said Jaffe.

"We found that unlike other SERMs, raloxifene has a positive, estrogen-like effect on a postmenopausal woman's bones and cholesterol levels, yet it does not mimic estrogen's adverse effects on her breasts and uterus," said Jaffe.

Estrogen acts by binding to structures called receptors in various target tissue cells, which then stimulate different responses, said Jaffe. For instance, estrogen can cause tissue growth in a woman's breasts and uterine lining, and over time, may increase her risk of breast or endometrial cancer, he added.

At the same time however, estrogen has been proven to significantly reduce a woman's risk of osteoporosis, Jaffe explained. The hormone may also fight heart disease in a woman by lowering both her harmful cholesterol levels (LDL) and her total cholesterol.

Raloxifene is expected to be available in pill form for postmenopausal women this month.

Jaffe will discuss raloxifene and other new estrogen therapy treatments for postmenopausal women at an annual health education symposium for the public on Saturday, March 21, on the UCSF Campus. The special all-day event features two programs, Women's Health 2000 and Teen Health 2000.

For registration and program information, please call 675-0177 or email wh2000@ricochet.net.

Black Caucus celebrates Burbridge's legacy

"First" is a word often spoken in close proximity to the late Thomas Nathaniel Burbridge's name. He was the first African American to graduate from the UC medical school in San Francisco. He was the first black intern at County Hospital, now San Francisco General. As an undergraduate, he finished first in his class in chemistry.

The UCSF Black Caucus commemorated this pioneer — both a graduate of and faculty member at UCSF — last Wednesday as part of Black Heritage Month. Two of Burbridge's children attended the celebration: Leigh, who works in Millberry programs and services, and Nancy Burbridge Meeks, who gave an overview of her father's life. UCSF retiree and Black Caucus cofounder Freeman Bradley talked about his friend and colleague.

The Burbridge family comes from a tradition of firsts. Dr. Burbridge's father was one of the first black physicians in Louisiana and was subsequently thrown out of his small town for saving the life of a white woman, Meeks said. She recalled her own father's accomplishments and his unwavering belief in discipline and hard work, which he handed down to his children, making them study when other kids were out playing and pushing them to be better than the rest.

Meeks recalled her father's repeated experiences with racism, often directed at him with violence. "We received nooses in the mail and, when I was seven, I remember answering the phone and someone saying that my father would die," she said. "He was shot at for giving a white woman CPR at the scene of a car accident."

Burbridge

Despite this adversity, Burbridge obtained not only a medical degree but also a PhD in pharmacology. He went on to become a professor and researcher at UCSF. He was an active community member, taking part in civil rights struggles. He was sentenced to nine months in jail for his participation in the Auto Row sit-ins in San Francisco, serving 30 days before being pardoned by Governor Pat Brown. "When Nat served 30 days in jail he used the vacation time he had accrued from UCSF," Bradley said with a laugh.

Burbridge was assigned to UCSF in the 1940s by the Navy. He remained here after his discharge, earned a medical degree in 1948, and became a

(See **Burbridge** on page 8)

Black Heritage Month Film Festival

The Pan African Scholars group at UCSF is sponsoring a film festival throughout February. All films will be shown in Health Sciences West, Room 300 and will start at 6:15 p.m.

- Feb. 17: *The Court Martial Of Jackie Robinson;* 1 hr., 34 min. Prior to becoming a baseball player, Jackie Robinson had to confront America's racism as an officer in the US Army.
- Feb. 18: *Quilombo*; 2 hr., English subtitles. A true story about the formation and survival of one of the most successful slave Marron societies in Brazil — Palamares.
- Feb. 19: *Mister Johnson;* 1 hr., 45 min. A poignant, sometimes funny look at the sinister relationship between the colonist (Nigerian) and colonizer (British). Film demonstrates the importance of maintaining allegiance to cultural values.
- Feb. 20: *SANKOFA;* 2 hr., 5 min. A powerful story about the importance of previous physically and presently mentally enslaved peoples of the African diaspora to discover and embrace their rich historical/cultural grounding prior to slavery.
- Feb. 25: *Piano Players Rarely Ever Play Together;* 1 hr., 16 min. A soulful presentation about bringing together three accomplished pianists ("Professor Longhair," "Tuts" Washington and Allan Toussaint) for a recording session as a piano trio. *A second film of 60-70 minutes will also be shown on this date.*

UCSF researchers use web to aid musical gene hunt

By ANDY EVANGELISTA and JENNIFER O'BRIEN

UCSF scientists are using the Internet to collect data and make a pitch for musically gifted research subjects who may help yield insight into a classic nature-versus-nurture question.

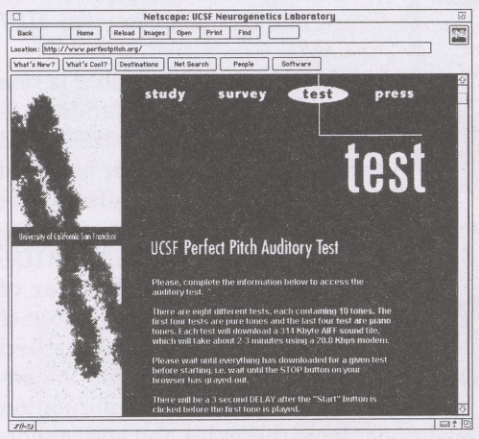
The Neurogenetics Laboratory put up a website (http://www.perfect pitch.org/) that could speed its search for a gene, or set of genes, involved in the ability to recognize or play a specific musical note without hearing a reference note. Only an estimated one in 2,000 in the general population — and 15 percent of musicians, according to a preliminary UCSF study — has this gift, called perfect pitch. But is this talent learned or inherited?

Musicians, especially those who believe they and family members have perfect pitch, can tune into the site and help answer that question. Musicians who have the proper software may complete a brief survey on their musical background, then take an auditory exam, testing their ability to identify pure and piano tones. Those with absolute or perfect pitch may be telephoned for another test and eventually asked for blood samples, which will help the lab hone in on a perfect pitch gene.

The study was started two years ago by renowned geneticists Jane Gitschier and Nelson Freimer, who hypothesized that having perfect pitch is a matter of both genetics and environment. Their preliminary study, published in the February 1 issue of American Journal for Human Genetics and reviewed in Nature/Genetics, suggests that one inherits a predisposition for the talent, but it must be exercised early in life in order for it to be realized.

The survey of 612 professional and student musicians found that 40 percent of those who began formal musical training by age four reported developing perfect pitch. In contrast, only four percent of those who began training after age nine did. The decline was remarkably steady. The study also found that those with perfect pitch were four times more likely to have a family member with perfect pitch. Forty-eight percent of those with perfect pitch said they had a first-degree relative with the skill, while only 14 percent of those without perfect pitch did.

The data are only the first part of what could lead to a major scientific score. Siamek Baharloo, a graduate student in Freimer's lab, gathered that information by surveying music students from around the country. He also performed auditory tests using a laptop computer, and even drew blood from willing research participants. The new website will not only cut down the amount of leg work, but also help attract the larger number of research subjects — both to participate in the survey and to have their DNA sampled — required to make it a sound study.



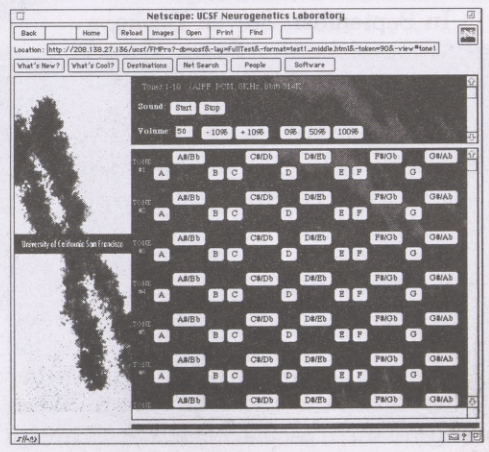
The Neurogenetics Laboratory's website tests your ability to discern pure and piano tones.

Although the website has been up for several weeks and has not yet been promoted widely, more than 40 people, some from as far away as Europe, have participated, said Baharloo.

The study, while interesting in itself, also identifies perfect pitch as a model trait for exploring the relative roles of "nature and nurture" in human behavior, says Gitschier.

Although much is known about the anatomy and physiology of the human auditory pathway, the specific neural mechanisms involved in pitch perception remain unclear. Psychophysical and physiological experiments suggest that high-level brain processes are involved, but there is no evidence regarding underlying developmental mechanisms that may play a role in these processes.

The UCSF investigation is the first large-scale study to examine both genetic and environmental influences. Much of the study, like other genetics investigations, will focus on Ashkenazi Jews, descendants of a relatively small number of families in Central and Eastern Europe. Because until recently these people did not often intermarry with other groups, those individuals with a given trait such as perfect pitch have probably inherited it in common from a few ancestors, says Freimer, making them ideal for identifying genes for human traits.



Researchers have determined that there is a critical period in the development or reinforcement of certain neural circuits in the brain for singing behavior in song birds and for language development in humans. This period parallels the stage that appears to be most critical for the development of language skills, said Baharloo.

Alternatively, said Gitscher, it is possible that individuals who are genetically predisposed to developing perfect pitch may be more likely than others to start musical training early in life. If this is the case, Gitschier said, genetic predisposition for perfect pitch might be prompting an early interest in music, but early training would still be necessary for cultivating the skill.

"Teasing out the roles of genes and the environmental influence is going to be a really interesting, really, really complex problem that's going to take a long time to solve," said Gitschier, "but we made a nice first pass at the problem."

RESEARCH ROUNDUP

Dramatic decline in HIV-opportunistic infections may be tied to protease inhibitors

UCSF researchers are reporting a dramatic decline in several common opportunistic infections in HIV-infected patients at San Francisco General Hospital.

Further studies must be done to tease out the explanation, the researchers say, but the critical factor may be the use of new potent antiretroviral drug combinations, of which HIV protease inhibitors are a critical component.

SFGH continues to see a steady increase in patients with HIV, but the UCSF study shows a decline in several opportunistic infections during the last four years — particularly in the last year and a half, when protease inhibitor use has accelerated at the hospital.

"The decrease in opportunistic infections is remarkable in this study," said Christopher Holtzer, lead author of the study, an assistant clinical professor of pharmacy at UCSF and a clinical pharmacist with the UCSF AIDS program at SFGH. "And the rise in protease inhibitor use correlates with this decline."

Wider use of more effective prophylactic medications may explain some of the pre-1996 reductions, the scientists said, but the declines seen from 1996 through the first half of 1997 — when the drop was substantial — may reflect the increased use of the antiviral medications.

During the same period, the use of protease inhibitors in the UCSF AIDS program outpatient clinic at SFGH rose 70 percent. Protease inhibitors act by blocking HIV infection of the immune system's CD4 T-cells. Unhindered, the fighter T-cells are able to proliferate, boosting the immune system and allowing it to fight infection better. Given this phenomenon, it is reasonable to assume, said Holtzer, that there would be fewer opportunistic infections in HIV patients.

While the UCSF scientists say their data is encouraging, they say more research must be done to clarify the findings. While there have been other reports of decreases in severe opportunistic infections following the widespread use of antiretrovirals, and the researchers themselves also report a 20 percent decrease in HIV-related hospital admissions at SFGH, both data are at odds with another recent study.

In September, Steven Deeks, a UCSF assistant professor of medicine in the UCSF AIDS Program at SFGH, reported that 53 percent of 136 HIV-infected patients who took protease inhibitors developed evidence of drug failure on the treatment.

"The question now is, 'what does all of this mean?'" said Holtzer. "The numbers just don't jibe. We have these large reductions in infections; however, we have reports of virologic failure in the other study. Does the fact that we can detect virus in these people mean that the drugs are no longer worth anything to these patients? We need to clarify the true impact of these new antiretroviral regimens."

Prior to the widespread use of potent antiretroviral regimens, care of HIV-infected patients focused on the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections and other HIV-related conditions.

The opportunistic infections looked at in the study are serious and can be life-threatening. Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP) is an infection of the lungs. Retinitis is a viral infection of the retina that causes progressive destruction of the tissue, often eventually leading to blindness even with treatment. MAC infections are blood-borne infections that can manifest themselves anywhere in the body. Cryptococcus neoforms meningitis is an infection of membranes in the brain.

In the UCSF study, the incidence of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP) dropped from 224 in 1994 to 163 in 1995, 132 in 1996, and 64 in 1997; in cytomegalovirus (CMV) retinitis, cases dropped from 48 in 1994 to 46 in 1995, 30 in 1996 and 3 in 1997; MAC cases dropped from 165 in 1994 to 142 in 1995, 76 in 1996, and to 27 to date in 1997. In CN meningitis, cases numbered 27 in 1994, 33 in 1995, 23 in 1996 and 10 to date in 1997.

The use of protease inhibitors in the SFGH outpatient AIDS clinic rose from 1.7 percent of patients followed in late 1995 to 43 percent in late 1996 and to 73.3 percent in 1997.

—Jennifer O'Brien

Study reveals factors motivating and deterring patients from multi-drug HIV therapy

A study by the UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) found that HIV treatment decisions are not made lightly and that persons with HIV disease and their caregivers take a thoughtful and cautious approach in determining whether or not multi-drug therapy is appropriate.

The CAPS study was conducted to examine the barriers and motivators to use of combination therapies in patients with HIV disease.

"Having drugs available is one thing, but a bigger challenge is getting people to take them and take them appropriately," said Tom Coates, UCSF professor of medicine and epidemiology, executive director of the UCSF AIDS Research Institute, director of CAPS and principal investigator of the study. "Our results identified three major needs: quality time for patients with physicians, more information about available therapies and special outreach to women and minorities."

He said that people are thoughtful about whether or not to take these drugs, and they need to have the time with their physicians to go through the decision-making process.

Multi-drug combinations of anti-HIV therapies have proven quite effective in clinical trials and are helping many people stay alive longer and have a better quality of life while they are alive. CAPS researchers sought to find out why people do or do not take advantage of these therapeutic advances.

The study involved in-depth, qualitative interviews with 114 individuals in the HIV community, including 75 HIV-positive men and women. More than half, or 53 percent of the patients interviewed, were not on combination therapy.

Patients who were not on therapy most often indicated that they would be motivated to start the treatment if they experienced a decline in their health status, if they saw or heard about improvements in other patients, if they obtained better research information about the drugs, and/or if they came to believe that the therapy would prolong their lives. Some patients also said that a positive recommendation from their physician would be key to starting therapy or if they learned how to cope with the treatment regimens and drug side effects.

"The decrease in opportunistic infections is remarkable in this study.... And the rise in protease inhibitor use correlates with this decline."

–CHRISTOPHER HOLTZER

Patients said they were deterred from taking advantage of combination therapies for a number of reasons, including concern about the complex and demanding treatment regimen, a belief that the drugs were "too experimental," concern about taking medications in general, a belief that they could manage the disease on their own, a concern about developing drug resistance, a preference for holistic and alternative remedies, and/or because their medical providers had not recommended that they begin treatment.

"People are hungry for information about these drugs, not only how they work but how to take them to maximize effectiveness and minimize the side-effects," Coates said. "And, therefore, since people have limited time with physicians, they are relying on other resources. So there is a great need to support the community and information services to make sure patients have access to accurate information. The study also indicates a crying need for special information about how the drugs affect women and for special outreach to minorities, especially Spanish-speaking people."

The patients were interviewed in a dozen cities across the country and represented a wide range of ethnic and racial groups. Thirty-nine percent of the patients identified themselves as heterosexual, 49 percent as gay, 9 percent as bisexual and 3 percent as lesbian. The patient interviews were conducted one-on-one, with interviews ranging from 30 minutes to more than an hour.

In general, patients said they relied on their physicians in deciding whether or not to start combination therapy and considered them a credible source of information. In addition, patients said they looked to other information sources, including specialized publications, HIV web-sites, support groups and other HIV-positive individuals, in making the decision.

Women who were interviewed in the study noted a lack of resources that related specifically to them. Women, who are a growing segment of the HIV population, said they were often reluctant to start therapy because they believed there was too little research on the impact of the drugs on women and childbearing. Women also were more apt to rely on support groups than men, yet they found it difficult to locate groups geared specifically for them.

In addition to Coates, the study authors are Maureen Michaels, president, and Bruce Carlson, research associate, both of Michaels Opinion Research.

Alice Trinkl

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Laurel Heights Construction

On February 20, a large crane will be set up in the parking lot at the Laurel Heights Building. For safety reasons and staging, the main entrance and most, if not all, of the surface parking lot will be closed. All vehicle traffic will be directed into the sub-level 2 entrance from Presidio. Shuttle buses will have to come in and exit from Laurel Street. The Shuttle will stop to the west of the building's main entrance.

During the weeks of Feb. 23-March 13, the crane located in the parking lot will lift modular mechanical penthouses onto the roof every day.

Quick Start Training for AAs

The UCSF Accounting Office and Purchasing is offering "Quick Start Training for AAs" for departmental administrative assistants to bring all users up to date on the changes effecting the departments regarding the new On-Line Financial System. This training is geared specifically to AAs who will be working with the new forms and chartfields as a result of the implementation of the new On-Line Financial System. The focus of the "Quick Start Training" is operational and includes information that AAs need in order to process Purchase Orders, Invoices and Journals beginning March 2. The class will cover the following topics: Forms, Chartfields, Basic AP, PO, and GL Processes and Procedures, Processing Schedules.

"Quick Start Training" will be offered February 17, 1:00-4:30 p.m. and February 19, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Cole Hall. Please make sure that any of your affected staff attend one of these sessions. There will be no enrollment for these classes. They are on a first-come, first-served basis. The rooms are large and should accommodate all interested parties, but be prepared to attend another session if the class chosen should fill up. Please call Judy Miller at 476-1648 or email jpowers@itsa. ucsf.edu with any questions.

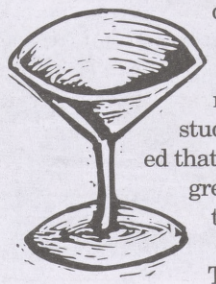
CAG meeting

The UCSF Community Advisory Group (CAG) will meet March 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., UCSF Laurel Heights Conference Center, 3333 California St. The CAG is composed of 34 representatives of neighborhood, ethnic, business, labor and other groups interested in planning issues. Formed as part of UCSF's commitment to involve a broad representation of citizens in campus planning, the CAG has been asked to help guide the campus through the implementation of UCSF's Long Range Development Plan. The public is invited to attend. If you have any questions, contact the Community & Governmental Relations Office at 476-3206.

Study denies alcohol abstainers at greater risk

People who abstain from drinking alcohol are not at any greater risk for premature death than those who are light drinkers, according to a new UCSF analysis published in the February issue of Addiction.

The analysis, conducted by a team of researchers in the UCSF School of Nursing, provides new findings in the ongoing controversy regarding the health benefits of light drinking versus abstaining.



Several recent much-publicized studies have suggested that abstainers are at greater risk of mortality than light drinkers.

The UCSF team, in collaboration with researchers in Sweden and several other countries, used the data from 10 mortality follow-up studies conducted elsewhere to carry out its analysis. The goal of the UCSF team was to re-analyze this information using consistent criteria.

The UCSF study found that there were important characteristics of drinking groups that were not always considered in previous studies.

"Our findings cast some doubt on the conclusions of other research that there are protective effects from light or moderate drinking," said Kaye Fillmore, professor in the department of social and behavioral sciences of the UCSF School of Nursing and principal investigator. "These effects have become accepted 'fact' without much attention paid to their many criticisms from the research community."

One of the concerns in many of the previous studies is that the measurement of drinking is not carefully delineated, according to Fillmore. The measurements used in the UCSF analysis were more carefully specified and therefore, may lead to more accurate results, she said.

The UCSF team defined light drinking as up to one drink per occasion for women and two drinks for men, or less than 15 occasions per month for both.

The researchers also found an important distinction between two types of abstainers — long-term abstainers and former drinkers — that are sometimes not taken into consideration in studies. Long-term abstainers are defined as those who never drank or who have not been drinkers for many years.

Analysis showed that several risk factors for premature mortality — other than drinking — were more prevalent among ex-drinkers than long-term abstainers. For example, adult men who are ex-drinkers are more likely to be heavier smokers, depressed, unemployed and of lower social class. Among women, ex-drinkers are more likely to be heavier smokers, in poorer health, not religious and unmarried than long-term abstainers.

These personal and lifestyle characteristics of the two groups of abstainers may "confound the relationships found between drinking and mortality risk," according to Fillmore. "When these factors are statistically accounted for, abstainers of either type are not at higher risk for premature mortality than light drinkers."

"What is important to remember is that all studies, these included, show that heavier drinkers are at considerable risk for earlier death. What we don't accurately know is the exact level of heavy drinking that predicts premature mortality."

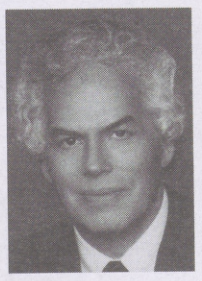
The research was supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and by a NIAAA Research Scientist Development Award to Fillmore.

—Dale Martin

Novel Form of Prion Protein Suggests Possible Pathway of Neurodegeneration

By JENNIFER O'BRIEN

UCSF researchers have identified a novel form of the prion (PREE-on) protein, offering new insight into the way in which at least one form of the brain degenerative disease, sometimes referred to as a spongiform encephalopathy, develops. The finding was published in the recent issue of Science.



Prusiner

The newly discovered form was first identified in a genetically engineered mouse model and then shown to be found in the brains of humans who have a rare, spontaneous genetic form of the disorder, known as Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker (GSS) disease. Whether this novel form of the prion protein will ultimately be linked to the more common prion diseases, including "mad cow" disease, remains to be determined.

Regardless, the finding offers a new mechanism for exploring how prion protein (PrP) causes the death of neurons, or brain cells. And it suggests that, at least in this rare, genetic form of prion disease, cell degeneration occurs in the absence of the previously identified scrapie PrP form of prion protein.

This novel form of prion protein is distinct from scrapie PrP, which is found in the vast majority of all prion diseases, including scrapie of sheep, "mad cow" disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) of humans. Scrapie PrP is considered the principal component of the infectious prion particle. The normal, healthy form of the protein is referred to as cellular PrP.

"We have found a smoking gun that says here is a whole set of complexities most people haven't really considered that is at the heart of at least one prion disease," said Vishwanath R. Lingappa, UCSF professor of physiology and medicine, and senior author of the study.

At issue, suggests Lingappa, may be a whole new concept in cell biology — the possibility that the protein factory known as the endoplasmic reticulum may feature in some neurodegenerative diseases. For the major finding of the UCSF study is that a form of prion protein synthesized in the endoplasmic reticulum remains stuck in the membrane, rather than being secreted through it.

"In a sense, we're finding that the endoplasmic reticulum makes a choice as to what type of topology it will create for a protein. Does it want a prion protein in its secreted form or one that is stuck in the membrane?," said Lingappa.

The endoplasmic reticulum has the potential to make the form of the prion protein that is stuck in the membrane and associated with disease, but normally the brain suppresses this pathway.

The idea that an infectious protein can cause brain degeneration was a novel concept itself when it was proposed in 1982 by UCSF researcher Stanley B. Prusiner, professor of neurology, biochemistry and biophysics, and a co-principal investigator of the current study. Scientists previously believed that all infectious pathogens were composed of nucleic acids (DNA or RNA), which direct the replication of their progeny. Proteins are composed of amino acids, and are assembled into chains under the direction of nucleic acids.

Prusiner won the Nobel Prize in 1997 for discovering the prion protein.

The prion protein exists in all mammals and birds examined, including humans, and becomes destructive only when its shape is altered. This concept was developed by Prusiner in conjunction with UCSF researchers Fred E. Cohen, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, and Stephen J. DeArmond, professor of pathology and neurology and a co-principal investigator of the current study. They postulated that this change occurs either through infection by an already infectious protein or through a genetic mutation.

While much of the current research has focused on trying to determine how the infectious form of the prion protein transmits its altered shape to the normal, healthy protein, the current study moves in a new direction.

"Right now," said Lingappa, "we can't say why these nerve cells are dying, but what we can say is here is a remarkable new clue. Here is a new pathway. Here are the tools. Let's get to work and figure this out."

Atkinson announces new outreach initiative

Saying that the University of California and all of higher education in the state have "entered a new era in terms of how we allocate educational opportunity," UC President Richard C. Atkinson unveiled a major new initiative in January to prepare greater numbers of California's youth for a university education.

Atkinson called the Outreach Action Plan the "next step" in the Regents' mandate to develop new directions and increased funding for outreach. "We owe much of our success in achieving diversity over the past 30 years to our highly effective affirmative action efforts," he said. "The University now has the opportunity to shape an approach to diversity that puts greater emphasis on individual promise and potential, less on characteristics like one's gender or color of one's skin."

The Outreach Action Plan has three main elements:

- An enhanced administrative structure, with Karl S. Pister, chancellor emeritus of UC Santa Cruz, taking on an expanded role in his capacity as senior associate to the president.
- An ambitious funding strategy fueled by investment from the University — including an additional $2 million commitment announced in January by the president — the state and federal governments, the California public school system and private sources.
- Intensified personal efforts in a range of outreach efforts on the part of the president and the Regents, the chancellors of UC's nine campuses and UC's faculty, students, staff and alumni. Atkinson cited as an example a letter from him to 13,000 California high school students encouraging them to apply to UC.

Atkinson's plan seeks to implement the recommendations of the UC Outreach Task Force, a 32-member panel of Regents, UC faculty, staff and students, business and industry leaders, representatives of the state's major education sectors, and officials from the state Department of Education and the Postsecondary Education Commission. Task force recommendations called for increased efforts to work directly with students to strengthen their academic preparation and better and more timely information about UC programs to be provided to students, families, teachers and counselors.

Free CPR training comes to campus

By LESLIE LINGAAS

The first-ever "CPR Saturday" held on the UCSF campus will offer free training sessions in adult CPR all day on March 14th. The event is sponsored by the UCSF Emergency and Cardiac Care Training Center (formerly known as the CPR Center) and the American Red Cross.

According to Center manager Harold Borrero, 26 volunteer instructors are signed up to staff the event, which will be held on the first floor of Millberry Union. Classes, which are three hours long, will begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12 p.m., with the 12 p.m. session offering a Spanish-language as well as an English language option. On completion, participants will receive a CPR certificate and a Red Cross CPR booklet.

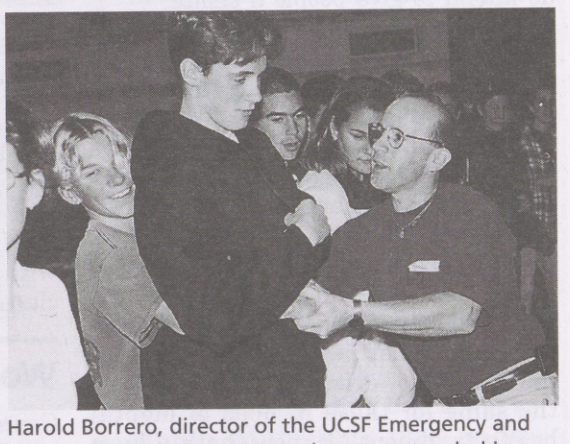
"It's the first time we've done a free event like this on campus, and we expect 300-400 people to attend," said Borrero. To pre-register for the event, please call the following toll-free number prior to March 1st: 1-888-686-3600. When you call, advise the operator that you want to register for the UCSF CPR training location. Borrero anticipates that there will also be a limited number of slots available to walk-ins on the day of the event.

As part of the day's events, a brief noontime ceremony will honor two UCSF employees who provided outstanding community service in putting their training to use. Carla Gilless didn't need CPR for her job in the Office of Research Affairs, but she took advantage of the opportunity to become certified when a program was offered to employees in her office.

It wasn't long afterwards that she had a chance to use her newly acquired skills. Two off-duty firefighters were taking a Sunday morning bike ride up a steep hill near her home, when one of them suddenly collapsed. When his buddy screamed for help, Gilless found herself assisting in the resuscitation effort.

"Our CPR trainer had warned us that there's a big difference between working on a mannequin and a real-life situation, but it was still shocking in its immediateness and grittiness," said Gilless. Although the patient never regained consciousness and died several days later, Gilless was glad she was able to do something. "I'm very proud that I wasn't just a bystander. I was glad I had something to offer."

In contrast, Claudia Miller, a nurse on the Pediatric ICU, deals with life-and-death situations on a daily basis. Taking care of one little boy, a near-drowning victim whose teenage baby-sitter did not know CPR, inspired her to organize a CPR training for teens in her hometown of Half Moon Bay. "I don't think any teenager should regret not knowing this skill," says Miller. "These are the kids who are baby-sitting, surfing, working in restaurants, and sometimes experimenting with dangerous behavior," she says. "They need to know what to do in an emergency."



Harold Borrero, director of the UCSF Emergency and Cardiac Care Training Center, demonstrates choking skill to students at Half Moon Bay High School.

Miller, whose son attends Half Moon Bay High School, planned a CPR training for interested students. With the cooperation of the principal and school district, she organized an event held at the school last fall. The UCSF Emergency and Cardiac Care Training Center donated and lent supplies, including mannequins, and some of its staff, including Borrero, volunteered to assist in the training. Six volunteers from the UCSF CPR center served as trainers. In all, 98 students were certified at the event.

Miller is working with the school district to make CPR training mandatory for all high school students.

New project to study genetic causes of cardiovascular disease

by ANDY EVANGELISTA

A collaboration between UCSF and a Sunnyvale-based genomics company should help scientists speed the uncovering of the genetic roots of cardiovascular disease — including arteriosclerosis, the leading cause of death in the US.

The research, they hope, will lead to new ways to diagnose and treat arteriosclerosis, and other diseases such as stroke, diabetes and hypertension.

The agreement between Hyseq Inc. and UCSF, announced yesterday, establishes the Cardiovascular Research Institute's (CVRI) Genomic Research in Arteriosclerosis at UCSF and allows scientists to collect DNA samples, under proper patient consent procedures, from 20,000 genetically diverse individuals. Many of these samples will include results from angiogram, ultrasound and biochemical tests, allowing a direct comparison of genetic information with clinical histories.

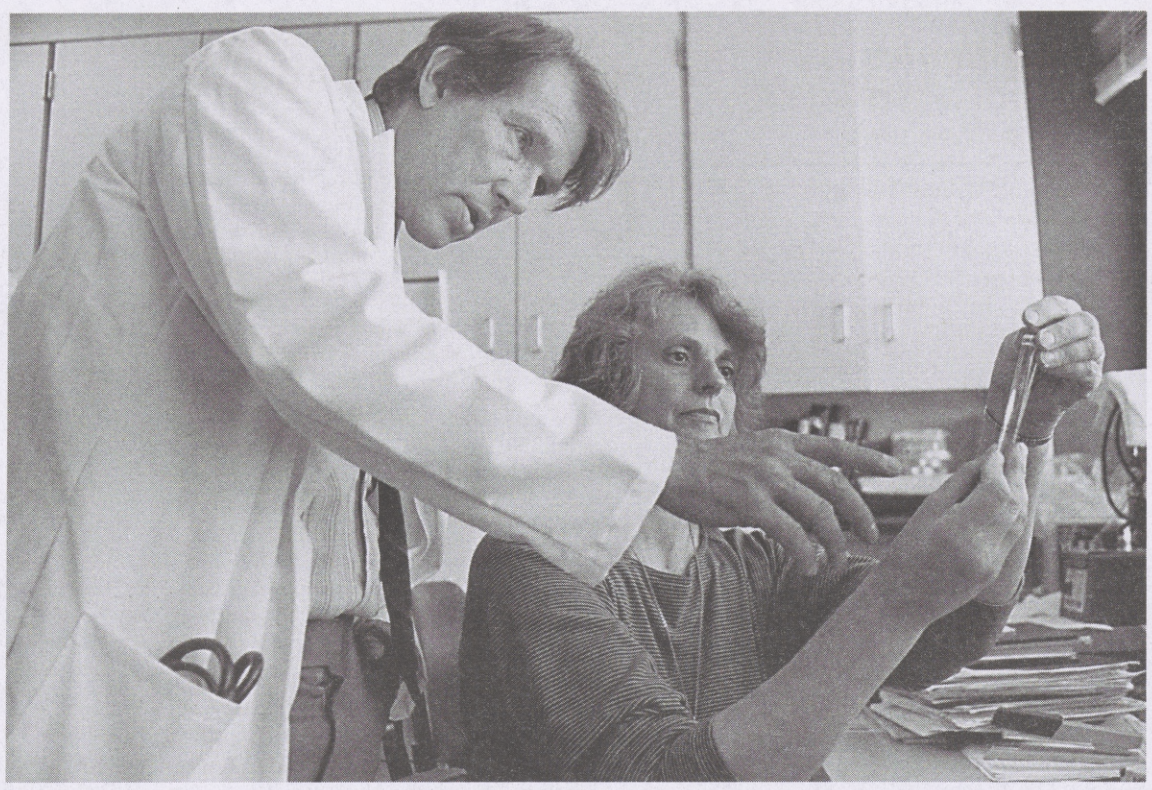
Funds from Hyseq will provide UCSF laboratory staff and technology to fully sequence 100 target genes in 5,000 individuals in the first year alone, said John Kane, professor of medicine and biochemistry and biophysics and the new project's director at UCSF.

The project, he said, is the largest to thoroughly understand the roles of genes and gene mutations that may lead to cardiovascular diseases.

"We believe that this project enables us to answer many of the questions that the cardiovascular community has long been seeking," said Kane. "Such an unprecedented new approach permits the efficient analysis of several hundred candidate genes in thousands of patients."

Arteriosclerotic coronary disease accounts for more than 40 percent of disease deaths in the US. Known risk factors, such as diet and smoking, account for about half of these deaths, but genetics are believed to play a role in the other half. Studies also suggest that hypertension and diabetes may share certain underlying biochemical abnormalities with arteriosclerosis.

The project will provide a valuable resource for other UCSF genetics scientists by essentially establishing a gene bank of 20,000 DNA samples for probing. Hyseq will house a duplicate bank, allowing large-scale population genetic-profiling to link optimal drug therapy to an individual's genetic make-up. The company has patented technology to allow cost effective identification of all the relevant genes from so many samples, yielding a complete genetic picture. The ability to effectively treat complex diseases should increase significantly once all the genes involved are identified, and their precise roles are defined.



Cardiovascular disease researchers John Kane and Mary Malloy.

SFGH (from page 1)

"I don't intend to diminish what we are currently doing," Brown said. "Just trust me. I will proceed in a fashion where we open the opportunity for new monies."

But the issue the Mayor spoke most passionately about was the "glaring need" to provide medical care to the more than 140,000 uninsured people in San Francisco. "The only time that they [get] the opportunity for medical care [is] when they come to the emergency room at SFGH."

Brown pledged to find a way "to do what Bill Clinton couldn't do....We do intend to provide universal health care in San Francisco," trumpeted Brown. "We do intend to give people a choice. We do intend to have a package of benefits." He admitted his administration is still a few months away from the reality of that promise. "We will be calling upon you, who in many cases have been performing mightily in this field already, to help us shape how we do it."

Brown somewhat apologetically recalled his enthusiastic call for substance abuse treatment on demand. "I said I wanted it on demand, but I didn't understand what that meant." He is proud of the results, however, and would like to do the same for those in need of mental health treatment. "I know that's a huge order, maybe bigger than the substance abuse treatment, but it's a goal. One that we ought to strive for," Brown said.

Taking over at the microphone, Debas jokingly lamented having to follow Brown's rousing speech. "If I had a nightmare, this was it." But he sobered as he enumerated the ways in which the major new campus at Mission Bay would affect SFGH, particularly the proposal to relocate the Gallo and Gladstone Institutes.

"Clearly we have to make sure that those activities are replaced in some way," said Debas, who recently returned from the School of Medicine Faculty Leadership Retreat in Santa Cruz, which was devoted entirely to discussion of the future of the hospital and its partnership with the University. "There will be space that will be released at SFGH that can be used for growth and for exciting new programs."

Debas

Debas gave the assurance that SFGH would not be "forgotten," calling the A-lot building "critical to any future planning" and the hospital itself critical to the University and the community.

"Neither the city nor UCSF can do without SFGH and its faculty," he concluded.

Women (from page 1)

Cancer Translational Project. Previous research projects have included smoking interventions for women seen in primary care practices, evaluating fertility drugs and ovarian cancer, and management of breech presentation.

Julia Charles, a student in the Medical Sciences Training Program, will receive the award for a student/resident/postdoc. As a medical student and a graduate student in the department of biochemistry, Charles has organized seminars and electives for her peers on issues relating to women's health. During her six years at UCSF, she has been active on CACSW, the Women's Medical Students Association, and Women in Life Sciences. In addition, she helped initiate, and participates, in a clinic for indigent women.

Chancellor Haile Debas will present these awards in a ceremony on Wednesday, March 11, at noon in Toland Hall.

No "deadbeat docs" at UCSF

Paying back student loans is a fact of life for most people who have graduated from medical, dental or other professional programs. But some professionals in the medical field are defaulting on their loans, so much so that Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala recently released the names of 1,402 of them on the web [http://www. hhs. gov/news/press/1998pres/980120a.html].

These physicians, chiropractors, podiatrists, dentists and others are now disqualified for payment by the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The defaulters all failed to pay back Health Education Assistance Loans (HEAL), and owe more than $101 million altogether.

The good news is that UCSF has no graduates on that list. Although UCSF students typically do not participate in the HEAL program, which is viewed as a last resort for funding, the institution's rate of default in all financial aid programs is very low, said Nancy Kull, director of student financial services.

"On occasion we have a student default and it's usually somebody who didn't complete the program or had serious health problems or other types of problems," said Kull, who has worked in financial aid at UCSF for almost 30 years.

Why has UCSF been so successful in churning out graduates who are so diligent and responsible? "The main reason is we're dealing with professional programs and when the students get out, they make good salaries and are able to repay their loans," Kull said. "People take repaying student loans very seriously these days."

The majority of students in UCSF's medical, dental and pharmacy programs take out student loans. "So many students are borrowing now," Kull said. Indeed, last year, 76 percent of medical students received some type of financial aid; dental students, 87 percent; and pharmacy students, 83 percent. The current tuition and fees for four years at UCSF's medical school is $35,978; dental school is $34,358; and pharmacy is $23,036.

Chiropractors are the worst about paying back the HEAL loans. Other health professionals on the HHS list of defaulters include dentists, physicians and podiatrists. California has the majority of defaulters, followed by Georgia and Florida, according to the report.

Of the UC schools, only Irvine and Los Angeles have graduates on the HEAL list and a total of only three: two in allopathic medicine and one in dentistry; altogether they owe less than $50,000.

California health professionals have defaulted on a total of $19,939,648 of HEAL loans, with $11 million of that owed by chiropractors, almost $4 million by dental professionals, $2 million by those in allopathic medicine and $1 million by podiatrists.

— Paula Murphy

Burbridge (from page 5)

graduate student and fellow in the department of pharmacology.

He interrupted his graduate work, however, to spend three years at the University of Indonesia, Djakarta, after revolution in that country, and played a key role in establishing a medical school there. He later returned to UCSF and completed his PhD. Burbridge joined the faculty in 1956 and conducted research on the pharmacology of alcohol. He also studied the medical use of marijuana for the terminally ill.

But the constant fight against racism and injustice took its toll on Burbridge physically, daughter Nancy said. He died of cancer in 1972 at the age of 51. "He paid his dues to get where he had to and his dues were especially high," Bradley said.

One of Burbridge's initiatives that stands the test of time is his community outreach efforts. He would travel at his own expense to recruit minority students from the South, Bradley explained, making it his personal mission to get more black students admitted to UCSF. "Minority graduates of this campus really have Burbridge to thank," Bradley said.

This "man for all seasons," as Bradley described him, was, among other things, a physician, researcher, father, husband, activist and, at one time, president of the NAACP. He was credited for prompting important civil rights changes in the areas of public housing, employment and education. UCSF honors Burbridge's memory by naming after him one of the annual UCSF Chancellor's awards for public service.

—Paula Murphy

UCSF's generosity feeds local hungry

Thanks to the efforts of UCSF faculty and staff, the burden of hunger was eased for the poor and underserved of San Francisco.

The University donated 1,414 pounds of food to the San Francisco Food Bank in 1997. The food is distributed through a network of more than 350 children's programs, health clinics, job training centers, shelters, soup kitchens and other programs that feed people who are struggling to rise above poverty or other social problems.

The program hopes to increase distribution by 30 percent this year.